



TOWN OF LYNDON  
SELECTBOARD MEETING

May 24, 2021

5:30 PM

Selectboard: Christian Thompson-Chair, Dan Daley, Nancy Blankenship

Officials: Dawn Dwyer, Justin Smith

Press:

Public: Steve Gray, Susan Russell, Joanie Hahr

1. Adjustments to the Agenda:

None

2. Sign the Orders for weeks 19-20:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the orders drawn on the Treasurer for weeks # 19 & # 20 with the Treasurer to sign due to COVID-19. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Gilman Housing Warrant #53:

Motion made by Nancy Blankenship, seconded by Dan Daley, to approve the Gilman Housing Check Warrant #53 in the amount of \$25,514. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Access Permits:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the access permit for Christopher Rice, to access the south side of Cotton Road. Motion carried 3-0. Rob Nutting, Road Foreman has inspected the location, reporting that a 15" culvert will be needed as well as the driveway will need to be cut back and leveled with the road for 15'.

Motion made by Nancy Blankenship, seconded by Dan Daley, to approve the access permit for Craig & Julie Demers, to access the west side of Cotton Road. Motion carried 3-0. Rob Nutting, Road Foreman has inspected the location, reporting an 18" culvert will be needed. No other conditions were noted.

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the access permit for Carrie & Peter Tomczyk, to access the east side of Kirby Road. Motion carried 3-0. Rob Nutting, Road Foreman has inspected the location, reporting that an 18" culvert will be needed. No other conditions were noted.

5. Lyndon Outing Club (LOC) Grant Award: Bike Path Update:

In moving forward with installing a pump track, mountain bike skills park – including berms, jumps, rollers, and wooden trail features – followed by construction of an on-hill trail system, there are some wetland concerns where the skills park would be located (directly behind the Minor League baseball field). LOC was unable to obtain their permit with the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) last year due to mowing the area prior to inspection making it impossible for ANR to determine what was growing there. The wetland consultant is coming Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> to meet with LOC and the bike park and trail contractor. Not much digging will happen, more building the area up.

LOC was awarded a \$26,000 grant by Northern Forest Center in partnership with Northeastern Vermont Development Associations (NVDA) and the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative.

LOC is also looking to replace the lift shack at the top of the hill. They have a benefactor that is willing to pay for it. LOC would build the deck and the Lyndon Institute Students from the Construction Trades will build the shack to be set on the deck. Since LCO was interested in adding lights, it required an ANR permit. ANR wants to combine the two projects into one permit. Each project is not contingent of the other.

Sue Russell will keep the Selectboard updated of their efforts toward their project.

6. Gravel Bids:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to accept the bid of \$7.50 per cubic yard from Simpson Dirtworx for up to 4,500 cubic yards of gravel. Motion carried 3-0. The other bid received was from Gingue Construction at \$8.00/cubic yard.

7. Roadside Mowing Bid:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to accept the only bid submitted by Walt Neborsky for roadside mowing in the amount of \$9,150. Motion carried 3-0.

8. Perpetual Care Agreements:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the three Perpetual Care Agreements, to be called the Ste Marie Family Lots (Section 53 Lots 9C, 9D and 10A). Motion carried 3 to 0.

9. Municipal Building Re-Opening Discussion:

Joanie Hahr came before the Board inquiring as to when the Town Offices would be open to allow for more research of the land records. Currently the office is taking appointments on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8 AM to 1 PM. The Town Clerk's Office is considered part of Group A of the Vermont Forward Plan as they are "low contact, have a short duration, and are outdoor or in a controlled environment" and recommended to follow the Universal Guidance requirements which are stay home if sick, wear a mask, ensure six-foot spaces and uncrowded places, practice good hygiene and think before traveling. With the limited workspace near the vault, it is difficult to maintain strict social distancing of six feet from other not fully vaccinated persons while on location. Other factors in limiting the times of appointments are that the Recording Clerk and Lister's require access to the vault to conduct their daily work. In addition, with limited time available to the Clerk's Office staff, they are unable to digitize prior recorded land records to make available through the online portal. Town Clerk, Dawn Dwyer, will work to increase the number of researchers from one at a time to two at a time. Masks will be required to be worn while in the Municipal Office Building.

10. Stars & Stripes Parade Approval:

The Stars and Stripes Festival is scheduled for Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Setup begins that morning between 6 & 7 AM and the festival winds down around 3 PM. To accommodate the parade, Main Street will be closed at the intersection of Route 5, 122 & 114 which is in the Town. The Stars and Stripes Committee must make the businesses aware of the closure thirty-days in advance so businesses can plan accordingly. Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the Stars & Stripes Festival parade route. Motion carried 3-0.

11. Other:

- a) Dan Daley contacted Bruce Stewart of Stewart Structural Engineering regarding the Fenton Chester Ice Arena. Mr. Stewart recommended Dan find the original blueprints and design plans so he can review how it was built. The building codes are different now than in 1979 when the Arena was built. If the original plans can be located, the fee to review and report would be approximately \$2,500.  
There is a group that has filed paperwork with the State of Vermont to become a 503C entity. They are looking to create two committees: Fundraising Committee to raise \$50,000 for startup capital and a Building and Grounds Committee to create a short and long-term list of building needs.
- b) Justin Smith updated the Board on the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD) tax appeal. Both attorneys have met and are reviewing the list of proposals made for a Host Agreement.
- c) Metal update – Rodger Sheldon, Project Manager with h2O Innovation, operator at the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) recommended that the Selectboard annually budget for the cleaning of grit from the ATAD and the pump stations. In addition, Mr. Sheldon recommended monitoring of

industries for metals in the wastewater. Christian Thompson, Chair of the Selectboard, would like to add to the Town Ordinances that businesses would be required to test for metals, and if a negative result were returned, the business would be responsible for the cleanup. Currently the cost of cleanup is assumed by the users of the wastewater system.

- d) The need of a large map scanner has been discussed. Nicole Gratton, Zoning & Planning, obtained a cost. Having a scanner would allow maps and surveys to be scanned and made available through the online portal as well as sending them to Cartographic on a more regular basis, allowing our tax maps to be updated quicker. The scanner will be paid for through records preservation funds.
- e) Justin Smith was asked if a pull-off located on Red Village Road could be eliminated. It has become a popular place to dump trash. In speaking with Rob Nutting, Road Foreman, he believes it can be built up and seeded with little effort.
- f) Steve Gray reported that at the last NEKWMD meeting there was a brief discussion of plastic bags. Currently the markets are limited. There is a possibility of sending them to either Texas or New Jersey. The only other alternative is to landfill them. The discussion was tabled until the meeting in June. Some of the prices of recyclables have increased. The review of the composting applicants began and will continue at a future meeting.
- g) Christian Thompson asked Justin Smith about having the representatives to the various Lyndon Boards update the Selectboard at a future meeting.